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"TACTICAL TASK FORCE"

(TTF)

Proposed by

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CONCEPT OF OPERATION FOR A RELATIVELY SMALL AND EFFICIENT  
UNIT FOR DEPLOYMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA WITH A MINIMUM OF  
FOREIGN ADVISORS.

"TACTICAL TASK FORCE"

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CONCEPT OF OPERATION

During the Vietnam conflict, from 1970 to 1972, there was a very successful operation conducted by PRU Advisors (Region III) against the Vietcong Infrastructure and other enemy guerrilla units around the Saigon area. Using intelligence from POWs and a relatively small and highly mobile paramilitary reaction unit, backed by helicopter gunships, they stopped enemy rocketing of Saigon and inflicted tremendous casualties on the Vietcong-NVA units in the area.

This operational concept will be ideal for the pacification effort in El Salvador and Guatemala. With a minimum of foreign advisors and giving on-the-job training to local pilots, an effective "TTF" can be created in a reasonable period of time.

This "TTF" will consist of three elements: a) a 100-man PM reaction force unit with intelligence capability; b) a search-and-destroy air team consisting of one observation helicopter (OH) and two B-26Ks armed with 2.75 rockets, .50 cal. machine guns, and 7.62 cal. miniguns; c) two UH-1 troop transport helicopters.

The OH will fly at treetop level while the B-26Ks circle overhead. When the OH spots the enemy, it will drop a colored smoke grenade and radio the enemy's exact location to the B-26Ks which can then immediately put the enemy under

heavy fire. After the B-26K run, the OH will check the area for results and a small PM Unit will be on stand-by to be airlifted into the area of operations by the UH-1 Troop Transport Helicopters in order to assess enemy damage, seize enemy documents and equipment, and capture, when possible, wounded guerrillas.

### THE CHOICE OF EQUIPMENT

#### Considerations:

Enemy units operating in Central America are, for tactical reasons, small and highly mobile guerrilla units. They are armed mainly with small conventional weapons of U.S., European, and Communist origin. So far, there are no Heat-Seeking Anti-Aircraft devices like the Soviet SAM-7. Deployment of sophisticated weapons in the near future in the AO is most improbable.

Based on experience gained in Vietnam and the Congo, success against these units depends exclusively on delivering ordnance on enemy targets with the utmost precision. This was achieved in Vietnam by the use of helicopter gunships using the already described operational concept, and in the Congo, by the effectiveness of the B-26K.

The B-26K, covering the low-level flying OH, will be as effective as a Helicopter Gunship, in this specific situation, because of its following advantages:

- A. It is cost-effective. For the price of one helicopter gunship, you will be able to acquire 10 B-26Ks which require less sophisticated maintenance.

- B. Due to the B-26K's long range, it could operate in El Salvador from neighboring Guatemala or Honduras, and thereby get safer bases of operations.
- C. Chile still has an operational squadron of B-26s, Brazil has some, and until recently there were several B-26s in Panama as well as a few in Central America.
- D. Several highly motivated pilots with tremendous B-26K combat experience are most willing to participate in this operation.

Recommendations:

The Observation Helicopter OH-58 (Bell Ranger) or the OH-6 (Hughes 500M-D) is recommended to be used as the low-level scout aircraft.

The B-26K fully armed is recommended for the covering aircraft with its eight each .50 cal., 2.75 rockets and 7.62 cal. miniguns.

The UH-1 Troop Transport Helicopter is recommended for Insertion and Extraction of the Special PM Unit; also for Aircraft Recovery.

OH-58 or OH-6	5 ea.
B-26K	10 ea.
UH-1	10 ea.

Ordnance:

We will consider for logistical consideration the ordnance needed for one month of operation based on 8 hours per day work of the "TTF."

.50 cal. (linked) 650,000 Rds.

7.62 cal. (linked) 500,000 Rds.

2.75 rockets (HE, Flechetes, WP) 15,000 Ea.

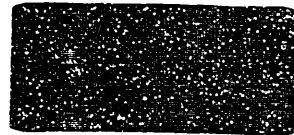
(If they can be acquired, the CBU-25, CBU-55, and Napalm bombs used in Vietnam will give the "TTF" more destructive power.)

GOAL:

The creation of one or more "Tactical Task Force" in the area, manned solely by indigenous personnel after on-the-job training by no more than six foreign advisors (1 PM and 5 Pilots) will drastically change the course of the present conflict with minimum U.S. participation.

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Circles of Distance & Time are based on 925 gals. (Internal Fuel Only), with the external tanks (2) 235 gals., add 3 hrs. 50 min. These F-84 Droppable External Tanks were adapted to the B-26s used during the Bay of Pigs operation.

